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POWESHIEK COUNTY,

I O W A .

In Climate, Soil and Productions.

THE OBJECT of this book is to set forth the truth. Much has been written and printed of the advantages Iowa holds out to the settler, still there are few outside of her own borders who have a clear conception of the grandness and beauty of the scenery, the fertility and adaptation of her soil to the various productions of the West. The Indian who breathed his pure air, drank his sweet waters, in his enthusiastic enthusiasm, said "Ho-kay!" and "Ho-kay!" — the settler who has claimed it. He has driven the Indian west, and has changed hunting grounds into beautiful farms, has planted towns and cities where he whistled, and has let loose the iron horse, which has since the buffalo roamed in countless numbers — has changed all; but he has, inspired by nature, called the land "Iowa!"

To the lover of the beautiful in nature, Iowa is a charming land. Her valleys are a succession of crystal clearness, fringed with their fine growth of timber, her thousand forests of every hue, her gorgeous sky and general air — all together, the visitor and the dweller alike with the mind of the artist. She is well called the "Beautiful Land."

It is almost impossible to describe the beautiful scenery of crystal clearness, fringed with their fine growth of timber, her thousand forests of every hue, her gorgeous sky and general air — all together, the visitor and the dweller alike with the mind of the artist. She is well called the "Beautiful Land."

MONTEZUMA, IOWA:

W. C. CONDIT, PRINTER.

1865.

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IOWA.

Its Climate, Soil and Productions.

THE OBJECT of this little book is to set forth the truth. Much has been written and printed of the advantages Iowa holds out to the settler, still there are few outside of her own limits who have any just conception of the grandness and beauty of her scenery, the fertility and adaptation of her soil and the healthiness and mildness of her climate.

"The Indian who roamed over its rolling prairies, who breathed its pure air, and drank its sweet waters, in his enthusiastic admiration, called the land 'Io-wah!'—'the Beautiful Land!' The Anglo-Saxon has claimed it. He has driven the Indian westward; has changed hunting grounds into beautiful farms; has planted towns and cities where but yesterday stood the wigwam; has let loose the iron horse where a few years since the buffalo roamed in countless numbers—has changed all; but he too, inspired by nature, calls the land 'Io-wah!'"

To the lover of the beautiful in nature, Iowa is enchanting. Her rolling prairies and beautiful streams of crystal clearness, fringed with their fine growth of timber, her thousand flowers of every hue, her gorgeous sky and genial air—all inspire the visitor and the dweller alike with the utmost enthusiasm. She is well called the "Beautiful Land."

It is about seventeen years since Iowa adopted a State government, and was admitted into the Union.

SITUATION—EXTENT—POPULATION.

Iowa is situated between 40 deg. 31' min. and 43 deg. 30 min. north latitude. It is 300 miles in length from east to west, and a little over 200 miles in breadth—containing about 56,000 square miles, being nearly a fourth larger than the State of New York. In 1850 the population of the State was 192,000; in 1860, 675,000; in 1863, 712,000.

CLIMATE.

PARKER, in his "Iowa as It Is," published in 1855, says :

"We have generally an unbroken winter from the middle of November till January, when we are almost invariably visited with a "January thaw;" after which the weather is generally mild and gradually merges into Spring. We are free from the sudden changes of New England, and from the long drizzling rains and fogs of the Middle States. Our storms are from the east, and our showers from the west.

"The State is located in the healthiest latitude of our continent; reaching only to latitude 43 deg. 30 min. on its northern boundary. Its winters are comparatively mild and pleasant, and its summers free from the long, scorching rays of a southern sun and epidemics so common in such climates. By the medical journals, Iowa is ranked as second only, in point of health, and no doubt it will be first, when she has a settled and acclimated population, as free from toil, privation and exposure as other States.

WM. BARROWS Esq., who probably possesses more information on the subject than any other person in the State, having been Government Surveyor for 18 years, says :

"One of the peculiarities of the climate is the dryness of its summers and autumns. The autumnal months are almost invariably clear, warm and dry.

"The climate of Iowa may be compared to that of New Jersey and the vicinity of New York City, except that we have not here so much rain and foggy weather as they have. Here it is in general an unbroken winter from the middle of November till January; when we are invariably visited with the January thaw; after which the weather becomes gradually milder. We have but little snow—not enough to prepare for sleighing, and but few sleds or sleighs are manufactured.

In another part of his work PARKER says:

"There is not generally much snow; no rain generally falls from October until March or April. The ground in winter is frozen to a great depth, owing to the loose nature of the soil. Three winters' experience in Iowa, and I have never seen the frost leave the ground after the winter sets in, until Spring. Our streets and roads are dry and dusty. It has been frequently remarked, that no soil in the world would stand as much dry weather as this, and there is none that is less injured by continued wet weather. Owing to these peculiarities of the climate, *no section of country can compare with this for stock raising, the cold dry winters being just the thing for cattle and sheep.*"

A pamphlet styled "Information for Emigrants," published seven years ago by the Dubuque Emigrant Association, thus speaks of the climate:

"As a general rule, the average quantity of rain and snow in Iowa is much less than in New York and New England. There are much fewer clouds. Winter commences about the same time it begins in the same latitude east, *but Spring generally opens much earlier.* The intense cold weather is comparatively short. *For a period of years spring will average from two to four weeks earlier.*" The general low elevation of Iowa above the level of the sea, has much to do with the mildness of the climate, the average elevation being only about 800 feet. The heat of summer is much greater than in the same latitude in New York and New England, though a person may work in the open sun in Iowa when the thermometer is 100 deg. above Zero, more comfortably than he can in New York (and other moist aired climates) when it is at 90 deg. An atmosphere saturated with water is more sultry and disagreeable with the thermometer at 90 deg. than a dry atmosphere with the thermometer at 100."

It may be added that the summer nights are always cool and pleasant, and the heat of the day is lessened by the breezes of the prairie.

Frosts frequently occur from two to three weeks sooner in the latitude of Cincinnati than in Central Iowa.

"The extreme severity of the winters of 1855-6 and '57 induced some feeble hearted people to leave the State. They seemed to forget the fact that one swallow does not make a spring, nor does an extreme winter settle the fact that our winter is rigorous. Rather let us believe the testimony of Iowa's oldest citizens, whose universal agreement in eulogising the winters of Iowa is supported by the exceeding mildness of the winter of 1857-8, which in a measure dispelled the impression concerning our climate, and already its influence on emigration into the State is felt. Trains of white topped wagons followed by droves of cattle are seen coursing our valleys. Here and there we find a settler's camp, where, living in his wagon or tent, till a house can be erected, he gives to the world a picture of noble enterprize, in which noble women fully share. A home springs up on the prairie,

neighbors settle near, and thus the State of Iowa is now being filled with a hardy, intelligent, and independent population, mostly of young people, and a large proportion from the Northern States, clothed with the vigor of a Northern latitude, disciplined by a liberal education, and taught from youth to regard labor as compatible with true gentility.

And well may such men emigrate here where they are subject to neither the rigors of the northern cold, nor the enervation of southern heat. We occupy that happy medium where industry is rewarded with plenty, and the full development of manhood is prevented neither by stint nor surfeit."

HEALTHINESS OF THE CLIMATE.

DR. UPDEGRAFF, a correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer* thus alludes to our climate. His remarks will commend themselves to the better judgment of those who have had the experience of a season or two in Iowa life :

"Of all considerations respecting a new country, the most important is as to its healthfulness. In this respect Iowa has the advantage of most new countries. An open prairie country *almost universally rolling, or even. Truly,* it is more favorable to health than flat prairie or level woodland. The streams are fresh running water with sandy or gravel beds. The scarcity of timber land, and the annual fires that pass over the prairies, prevent to a great degree the decomposition of vegetable matter, which is in most new countries the great source of disease. With some local exceptions there does not seem to be any reason why this State should not enjoy as high an average of healthiness as Ohio *now* does. To observe the exertion and exposure, often reckless and unnecessary, to which most new settlers subject themselves, it becomes a matter of surprise that disease and mortality are not much more usual than they are."

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

THE SOIL.

The soil of Iowa cannot be over-praised. It is similar in its elements and in its depth, to that of the most fertile districts of the globe.

"It is well known," says Parker, "to the scientific farmer, that the land best suited to wheat and most of small grains, and in which the earthy, saline, and organic matters are distributed in the proportion best adapted to impart fertility and durability, is generally a soil based on the calcareous and magnesia calcareous rocks."

This condition specially characterizes the country watered by the Des Moines, the Skunk and the two Iowas.

Owen in his Geological Report says:

"The prairie country, based on rocks belonging to the Devonian and carboniferous systems extending up the valley of the Red Cedar, Iowa, and Des Moines, as high as latitude 40 deg. 31 min., presents a body of arable land which, taken as a whole, for richness and organic elements, for amount of saline matter and due admixture of earthy silicates, affords a combination that belongs only to the most fertile up-land plains. Throughout this district the general levelness of the surface, interrupted only by gentle swells, and moderate undulations, offers facilities for the introduction of all those aids which machinery is daily adding to diminish the labor of cultivation, and render easy and expeditious the collection of an abundant harvest."

STREAMS.

"No State in the Union is more bountifully supplied with water than Iowa; being bounded on the east by the Mississippi, and on the west by the Missouri,—the interior of the State being traversed in every direction by noble, and in many cases navigable rivers, some of them running parallel to each other from twelve to twenty miles apart, skirted with timber of from one to five miles wide. Our rivers are clear, fresh and healthy, of gentle current, capable of furnishing water power for all purposes."

TIMBER.

About one-tenth of Iowa is timber land. Much of this is inferior, but that skirting the streams is equal to that of timbered countries. The principal varieties are oak, walnut, hickory, linn, ash, maple, elm and cotton-wood. There are thousands of acres of young timber coming to maturity rapidly—growing much faster than in the older States. A vast amount of locust is being cultivated.—The supply in most of the Southern counties of the State is equal to the demand, and taking the whole State the supply is increasing faster than the demand.

GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE PRAIRIES.

The novelty of the prairie country is striking, and never fails to cause an exclamation of surprise from those who have lived amid the forests of Ohio and Kentucky, or along the wooded shores of the Atlantic, or in sight of the rocky barriers of the Allegheny ridge. The extent of the prospect is exhilarating. The outline of the landscape is undulating and graceful. The verdure and

the flowers are beautiful; and the absence of shade, and consequent appearance of a profusion of light, produces a gaiety which animates every beholder.

These plains, although preserving a general level in respect to the whole country, are yet, in themselves, *not flat*, but exhibit a gracefully waving surface, swelling and sinking with easy, graceful slopes, and full, rounded outlines, equally avoiding the unmeaning horizontal surface, and the interruption of abrupt or angular elevations.

The attraction of the prairie consists in its extent, its carpet of verdure and flowers, its undulating surface, its groves, and the fringe of timber by which it is surrounded. Of all these, the latter is the most expressive feature. It is that which gives character to the landscape, which imparts the shape, and marks the boundary of the plain. If the prairie be small, its greatest beauty consists in the vicinity of the surrounding margin of woodland, which resembles the shore of a lake indented with deep vistas, like bays and inlets, and throwing out long points, like capes and headlands.

In the spring of the year, when the young grass has just covered the ground with a carpet of delicate green, and especially if the sun is rising from behind a distant swell of the plain and glittering upon the dew-drops, no scene can be more lovely to the eye. The groves, or clusters of timber, are particularly attractive at this season of the year. The rich undergrowth is in full bloom. The rosewood, crab-apple, wild plum, the cherry, and the wild rose are all abundant, and in many portions of the State the grape-vine abounds. The variety of wild fruit and flowering shrubs is so great, and such the profusion of the blossoms with which they are bowed down, that the eye is regaled almost to satiety.

The gaiety of the prairie, its embellishment, and the absence of the gloom and savage wildness of the forest, all contribute to dispel the feeling of loneliness which usually creeps over the mind of the solitary traveler in the wilderness. Though he may not see a house or a human being, and is conscious that he is far from the habitations of men, the traveler upon the prairie can scarcely divest himself of the idea that he is traveling through scenes embellished by the hand of art. The flowers, so

fragile, so delicate, and so ornamental, seem to have been tastefully disposed to adorn the scene.

In the summer, the prairie is covered with long, coarse grass, which soon assumes a golden hue, and waves in the wind like a fully ripe harvest. The prairie grass never attains its highest growth in the richest soil; but in low, wet, or marshy land, where the substratum of clay lies near the surface, the center or main stem of the grass—that which bears the seed—shoots up to the height of eight and ten feet, throwing out long, coarse leaves or blades. But on the rich, undulating prairies, the grass is finer, with less of stalk and a greater profusion of leaves. The roots spread and interweave, forming a compact, even sod, and the blades expand into a close, thick grass, which is seldom more than eighteen inches high, until late in the season, when the seedbearing stem shoots up. The first coat is mingled with small flowers—the violet, the bloom of the wild strawberry, and various others, of the most minute and delicate texture. As the grass increases in height, these smaller flowers disappear, and others, taller and more gaudy, display their brilliant colors upon the green surface; and still later, a larger and coarser succession arises with the rising tide of verdure. It is impossible to conceive a more infinite diversity, or a richer profusion of hues, “from grave to gay,” than graces the beautiful carpet of green throughout the entire season of summer.

IOWA AS AN AGRICULTURAL STATE.

A FEW STATISTICS.

By the census of 1856, it appears that Iowa raised 31,163,362 bushels of corn; while, by the census of 1850, it appears that New York and the six New England States, together, only raised 28,034,256. The population of Iowa, in 1856, was a little over 500,000, while the combined population of New York and the New England States in 1850, was 5,700,000. The Corn crop of the United States is of more value than that of any other three crops combined.

By the census of 1860, Iowa produced 41,116,994 bushels of Indian Corn, while the aggregate amount raised the same year by New York and the six New England States together, was only 29,160,577 bushels. Thus it will be seen that New York and the New England States increased in *ten* years from 1850—60 only 1,126,321 bushels of corn, while young Iowa increased in *four* years 9,953,632 bushels, and in ten years from 1850—60, 32,460,195. The great State of New York did not raise half as much corn in 1860 as did Iowa. Michigan produced but little more than one fourth as much as Iowa, and Wisconsin a little more than a sixth.

SORGHUM.

Let us compare the Sorghum crop, which is destined to be one of the staples of this country, and especially of this State.

In 1860 Iowa produced 1,993,474 gallons of Sorghum molasses, Indiana 827,777 gallons, Illinois 797,096 gallons, and Ohio 707,416 gallons; by which it is seen that Iowa is the greatest producer, and raises more than double the amount raised by Illinois, which is the next greatest producer.

MAPLE MOLASSES.

It is not expected that a prairie State will produce as much molasses and sugar from the maple as those States which abound in timber. But comparing this State with three of her border States the result is highly satisfactory.

In 1860 Iowa produced 97,751 gallons of maple molasses; Illinois 21,423; Minnesota 21,829; Missouri 18,289—the amount made in Iowa being a half more than the amount made in the other three States together.

WHEAT, OATS, &c.

Mr. Barrows, before mentioned, thus speaks of the culture of Wheat, Corn, Oats, &c.:

“Our Wheat is sown in March, and our Corn planted the last of April and the first of May. But little winter Wheat is grown here. The light snows are insufficient to protect it from winter-killing.—Spring wheat is raised in great abundance and of good quality. Corn is raised in large quantities; and all the products of the earth, congen-

ial to this climate, grow with but little labor. Seldom is the hoe used in the corn or potato field—the horse and plow do the work, in general. Of the Wheat crop, forty bushels to the acre is considered a good crop; and of Corn, fifty, sixty and seventy-five bushels are raised to the acre; four and five hundred bushels of Potatoes and Onions to the acre are common."

Another writer says :

"The yield of Corn in Central and Western Iowa will average from 80 to 100 bushels per acre."

Hon. Geo. Wright in an address at the opening of the last State Fair in Iowa, read the following from Isaac Newton, the well known Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture at Washington :

"WASHINGTON, D. C., September 3, 1864.

Hon. GEO. WRIGHT, Dear Sir :—

The reports of the average yield of the crops throughout the country, for the present year, clearly show that your State has the honor of being placed at the *head of the list*.

This fact will doubtless be quite gratifying to you, as well as to the farmers of your State generally. It not only speaks volumes of praise in behalf of the enterprise and industry of your rapidly growing and thriving population, but it seems very clearly to indicate that you are peculiarly blessed with an adaptation of climate and soil unsurpassed; if equalled, by any other State in the Union.

As one who has ever taken the most lively and active interest in the ennobling pursuits of Agriculture, I have been pleased to notice the steady and unprecedented advancement of your State in this, by far the most important branch of a nation's prosperity and wealth, and can but assure you that I am deeply gratified at the success to which it has already attained, although comparatively a young State.

The census of 1850 shows the population of Iowa to have been a little above 192,000.

The census of 1860 shows a total of 675,000, an increase of 430,000!!! in the short space of ten years, being almost half as much as the total population of the Old State of Virginia.

With this astonishing growth of population and wealth, a boundless career of influence and importance awaits the futurity of your noble State. I have the honor to be very truly yours, &c.

ISAAC NEWTON, Commissioner.

STOCK RAISING.

Although, as we have seen, Iowa goes far ahead of most of the other States of the Union in producing the great staple crops of grain, yet this is not the most important branch of labor and pursuit of her citizens. Stock raising, but especially wool growing, is attracting the

chief attention of our farmers, and will soon be the most important branch of industry in the State. During the last summer season sheep were imported into this State by rail and on foot, by thousands upon thousands—crossing the great Father of waters at every available point, they have been driven westward to find congenial homes on the vast prairies of a State that could this day support all the sheep in the Union.

There is no finer stock-growing field in the world than Central Iowa. This is the universal opinion of growers acquainted with the advantages of these regions. One writer says :

“That portion from Cedar river to the Missouri, in particular, stands pre-eminent above all other countries as the best for the production of grass. The counties lying half way between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers [Poweshiek is one of the finest among them] would average from one to three tons of good hay to the acre. The grass is a good quality of what is called upland prairie grass. It is more nutritious than any of the tame grasses ; cattle become fatter by pasturing on it. It is not as juicy as the different kinds of tame grass ; cows that pasture on it will not give as much milk, but will accumulate more fat. When cut, it shrinks much less in curing for hay. It seldom heats. Horses that eat it can never have the heaves. A horse that has the heaves, when brought to this country and fed on prairie hay in the winter will be as exempt from heaves as he would be in summer time in the East. The hay in appearance is green, and it smells much sweeter than tame hay. On the whole, it is superior either for pasturage or hay, for horses, cattle or sheep.

“The yield of Corn in Central and Western Iowa will average from 80 to 100 bushels per acre. The stalks grow very large. After the Corn is picked, the farmers turn their cattle into the fields among the standing stalks, which afford nearly all the feed that cattle get in the winter. This is a common practice but is rather poor policy. The corn stalks do very well so far as they go, but shelter, protection and a little corn meal will do stock as much good in Iowa, in the winter, as in any other country. *There is no country on earth that can compete with the region above described, in raising stock.* Corn can be produced for five cents a bushel, [This was written some years ago ; of course it would cost more at the present advanced rates of labor, living, &c.] and Hay for the trouble of cutting. *There are plenty of lands in that region of country belonging to speculators, on which settlers can pasture their cattle and cut their hay for years to come.* A farmer can buy a small piece, break it up and enclose it for the purpose of raising grain, etc., and the speculator will furnish the meadow and pasture and pay the taxes on it. A very great convenience to a new beginner in a new country. The western prairies now feed not only the greater portion of the eastern States with beef, but send large

quantities to the Old World. Beef is an article that will bear transportation, and uniformly brings a good price.

The production of Horses, Sheep, Wool, Butter and Cheese, for various reasons, will be equally profitable; it is a business that recommends itself more strongly to the attention of the farmer than any other."

Wool growing is now receiving more attention from the farmers of this State than any other pursuit. Stock of the very finest blood has been imported from Vermont and other Eastern States; and Iowa will doubtless soon take her place at the head of the list of wool growing States. Let us compare figures.

The United States Census Reports show that during the ten years 1850—1860. Ohio *decreased* 22.2 per cent. in the number of sheep; Indiana 10. per cent., and Illinois 13.2 per cent.; while Iowa *increased* in the number of sheep for the same period 72.1 per cent., and in amount of wool, 74.6 per cent.

FRUIT CULTURE.

Most of the varieties of Fruits that flourish north of the Ohio river find a genial soil and climate in Iowa. The Peach is raised with some difficulty; but much progress is being made in the culture of Apples, Plums, Pears, and the smaller fruits, which grow luxuriantly. Blackberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, strawberries, and the like grow better *nowhere* than in this State. Iowa promises, in a few years, to be a great grape-growing country, as the matter has been fully and successfully tested.

MINERALS.

"Iowa contains more coal than any other State in the Union. Nearly two-thirds of the State is a vast coal-field. This will be a source of infinite wealth to the State, at no distant day. The coal-fields of the State may be said to cover 35,000 square miles. Fine qualities of building lime-stone are found on the banks of the two Skunks and many other streams. Lead, iron, copper and coal, and building stone are the principal minerals of value in the State, but in addition there are valuable clays, marble, gypsum or plaster of Paris, quartzite, hydraulic limestone.

The following is from the report of Dr. Owen, U. S. Geologist, which, from its impartial source, must be regarded as good authority :

The carboniferous rocks of Iowa occupy a region of country, which, taken as a whole, is one of the most fertile in the United States. No country can present to the farmer greater facilities for subduing, in a short time, wild land. Its native prairies are fields, almost ready made to his hands. Its rich, black soil, returns him reward for his labor an hundred fold. The only drawback to its productiveness is that, on some of the higher grounds the soil, partaking of the mixed character common to drift soil, is occasionally gravelly, and that, here and there, where the upper members of the coal measures prevail, it becomes too silicious.

The rural beauty of this portion of Iowa can hardly be surpassed. Undulating prairies, interspersed with open groves of timber, and watered with pebbly rocky-bedded streams, pure and transparent ; hills of moderate height and gentle slope ; here and there especially towards the heads of streams, small lakes, as clear as the rivers, some skirted with timber, some with banks formed by the green sward of the open prairie ;—these are the ordinary features of the pastoral landscape.

For centuries the successive natural crops of grass, untouched by the scythe, and but very partially kept down by the pasturage of buffalo and other herbivorous animals, have accumulated organic matter on the surface soil to such an extent, that a long succession, even of exhausting crops, will not materially impoverish the land. The prairie sod, matted and deep-rooted, usually requires from six to eight yoke of oxen to effectually break it up.

The future farms of Iowa, large, level and unbroken by stumps or other obstruction, will afford an excellent field for the introduction of mowing and reaping machines, and other improved implements calculated to save the labor of the husbandman ; and which, in new countries reclaimed from the forest, can scarcely be employed until the first generation shall have passed away."

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

In 1860 the population of the State was 674,948, and in 1863 it was 711,968, being an increase of 37,020 or nearly 20 per cent. in three years of war. From 1850 to 1860 her increase was 256.64 per cent. The increase of Illinois for the same period was 101.06 per cent. ; of Indiana 36.63 per cent. ; of Missouri 73.30 per cent ; Mississippi 12.29 per cent. ; of Michigan 33.38 per cent.

REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ARMY.

Iowa has furnished about 40,000 men for three years' service in the suppression of the rebellion. She is so far ahead

of all other States in this respect, that she entirely escapes the draft—having not only furnished her proportion of the call of Dec. 19, 1861 for 300,000 men, but has a handsome credit in advance. The valor of her troops is known wherever the Union army has advanced—from Wilson's Creek to Winchester, and their names are second to none in honor.

RAILROADS.

There are now four great lines running from east to west, completed a hundred or two hundred miles west of the Mississippi river, and these will soon be finished across the entire State. A grand north and south trunk road is being built across the State, connecting with other roads in Missouri and Minnesota and destined soon to form a continuous line between St. Paul and St. Louis. Many other short and side lines will ere many years be built, and the whole State chequered with iron tracks.

EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES.

There is no State in the Union which has so liberal a school system as the State of Iowa.

By an act of Congress 500,000 acres of land were set apart for the promotion of the cause of education. In 1855 there was about 1,000,000 in the hands of the School Fund Commissioners, which, loaned at ten per cent., brought an annual income of \$100,000. By an examination of the reports of the State Superintendent we find the School Fund had increased in 1862, to \$2,127,301.60.

MAP OF POWESHIEK COUNTY, IOWA.



The shaded portions represent timber.

A railroad will probably soon be built running north and south through the central portions of the county.

POWESHIEK COUNTY.

LOCATION.

Poweshiek County, Iowa, lies between 41 deg. 30 min. and 42 deg. north latitude, about the same parallel as Cuyahoga county, O.—Montezuma, the county seat, being exactly on the same line as Cleveland. The center of the county is a hundred miles west of the Mississippi river, and fifty-five miles east of Des Moines, the capital of the State. There are five tiers of counties north of this and three south, in the State. It embraces townships 78, 79, 80 and 81 north of the base line, in Ranges 13, 14, 15 and 16 west of the 5th principal meridian, and contains 369,360 acres.

SETTLEMENT.

The first settlements in the county were made by Richard B. Ogden, Jesse Hiatt, D. Satchel, Martin Snyder, Gideon Willson, Isaac C. Willson, Richard Cheesman and J. Scøy. Mr. Ogden came to the county in 1843, Messrs. Satchel and Cheesman in 1844.

ORGANIZATION, &c.

Poweshiek County was organized in April, 1848: the first county commissioners being Jacob Yeager, Martin Snyder and Richard B. Ogden. The signatures of these men appear to the acknowledgement of the record of the town plat of Montezuma, the first writing in the Record Books of the County, attested to by Stephen Moore, Clerk B. C. C. P. C. The correctness of the description of the plat is certified to by Mahlon Woodward, county Surveyor. The date of this record is August 9, 1848.

It is said that the Judge who held the first Circuit Court in the county rode to Montezuma, from Robert Taylor's, 10 miles east, went through with everything on the docket, and returned to Mr. Taylor's same day. His name we cannot give. Carlton and Wm. Smyth are the first names of judges that appear on the records.

DESCRIPTION—SOIL.

What has been said of the State at large in respect to climate, soil, productions, &c., may be said of Poweshiek County. There is no better soil anywhere than the soil of this county. It is chiefly a rich, black loam, composed of vegetable deposit, with a clay subsoil, underlaid with carboniferous limestone. The depth of this vegetable deposit which has been accumulating for centuries varies from two to six feet, and is almost inexhaustable in fertility. The ease with which this soil is cultivated is an item of great importance to the settler. One man with a team can tend from forty to fifty acres of corn well.

There is no waste land in this county. It can all be brought under cultivation.

MINERALS.

In the southern part of the county there is found to crop out a rock which is supposed to belong to the upper beds of the carboniferous limestone. It is used for underpinning to buildings, and makes excellent lime, from which the whole county is supplied. Bitumenous Coal is also abundant in the southern portion of the county; and doubtless both the limestone and the coal may be found in almost every township by proper effort. There is an excellent clay for brick throughout the county.

WATER.

There is not a township in Poweshiek county that has not an abundance of living water. Several of the streams afford sufficient water for ordinary mill purposes; and yet none of them are so large as to require any expensive bridging, which is quite an important item to the emigrant who is seeking a home in a new country. The streams are all easily bridged, the channels being invari-

ably narrow and deep. Wells are seldom deeper than fourteen feet. The very best of water, sweet and clear, in great abundance, is obtained at a depth of 12 to 14 feet.

CROPS.

The average yield of corn is from sixty to seventy-five bushels to the acre. There were many fields in this county the last summer which produced seventy-five bushels, and not a few a hundred bushels to the acre. Of wheat the average yield is twenty to twenty-five bushels; of oats sixty to seventy. The amount of Sorghum syrup produced to the acre will average about 90 to 100 gallons; of potatoes about 100 bushels.

CLIMATE.

The climate here is delightful. The winters are mild, usually dry and unbroken from the first setting in till the opening of spring. Spring is more forward than in central Ohio. The summers are unsurpassed in salubrity, and indeed the whole year is unequalled in this respect by the climate of any other portion of the United States.—The heat of the summer season is greatly modified by the prairie breezes, which are constant; and thus the fatigue consequent upon hard labor in the open field, is very much lessened. During the warm seasons one may be in the open air at night and all night with impunity. No dampness collects in the clothing; the air is not chilly neither oppressive with heat; it is not laden with noxious vapors arising from stagnant water and decaying vegetation. In short the healthiness and beauty of the climate can only be understood by being enjoyed.

PRAIRIE AND TIMBER.

The prairie of Poweshiek county is gently rolling throughout its whole extent. There are no marshes or swamps within her limits. The timber is good and much more abundant than in many counties of the State. By reference to the map on the 16th page of this pamphlet, the proportion of timber to prairie land may readily be seen.

POPULATION.

In 1860 the population of this county was 4,920; in 1863 it was 6,370, being an increase of 1,450 in three years of war, having sent to the army in the same time her full quota of soldiers. The census returns for the present year are not yet in; but they will doubtless show a population of about 8,000. The county is now rapidly filling up. At the last general election the entire vote of the county was 1,408—947 Republican, and 461 Democratic.

DESCRIPTION OF TOWNS.

Montezuma.

MONTENZUMA, the seat of justice of Poweshiek county, was laid out in the summer of 1848, by John White, R. B. Ogden and a Mr. Matthews, five years after the first settlement in the county.

Gideon Willson and Isaac G. Willson hauled the first timber on to the town site, in January, 1849, and erected the first building in the town, a log house, which is still standing as a part of the building known at present as the McKee property. Martin Snyder had previously built a log house a little west of town. Gideon Willson, who is at present a dry goods merchant in the place, kept the first store in the town and in the county, which was opened in June, 1850.

The first white child born in Montezuma was Catharine Willson, daughter to Isaac G. Willson, in March, 1850. The first death in the place was that of the wife of Washington B. Harden, which occurred in the fall of 1849.

The population of Montezuma was at one time about a thousand, but many dwelling houses have been removed from the town to farms in the vicinity, and the popu-

lation thus decreased for a time. The country around is thickly settled and well improved.

Montezuma contains five dry goods stores, six groceries, two drug stores, three blacksmith shops, a wagon shop, two cabinet shops, one harness and saddle shop, one banking house, one large brick steam flouring mill, one printing office, two churches, one large hotel, one large school house and a substantial and elegant Court House.

There are three church organizations in the place, the Methodist Episcopal, the Methodist Protestant and the Presbyterian. The Methodist Protestant society has a small but good brick building; the Methodist Episcopal society has a fine frame building about 40 by 60 feet, erected in 1858 at a cost of about \$4,400.00. At present the Presbyterians worship in the Court House. The School House is two stories high and contains four commodious rooms; it will accommodate about 250 scholars. The Court House is a magnificent structure of brick, of the Doric style of architecture; the foundation, caps and sills are of white limestone. The size of the building is 50 by 70 feet, two stories high; it has forty-six large windows, presenting a beautiful appearance. On the first floor are the Clerk's, Treasurer's, Judge's, Recorder's, and some law offices; above are the court and jury rooms. The building was erected in 1857 at a cost of \$23,000. No adjoining county has as good a court house as this, and better ones are rarely seen, even in the older States.

Grinnell.

In the winter of 1853 and 54 there appeared a notice in the *N. Y. Independent and Tribune* by Rev. J. B. Grinnell, then a Congregational Minister in New York, of his purpose to form a Christian colony and locate in the west.

On the 9th of March, 1854, some four or five gentlemen met for the first time at the Park House, Iowa City, and consulted regarding this colony, and came to the conclu-

sion that Iowa offered greater advantages to such a colony than any other State.

Three of those present, the Rev. J. B. Grinnell, Dr. Tho. Molyoke, and Rev. Homer Hamlin, with a surveyor, Mr. Cassaday, of Iowa City, having procured a team started out upon the Iowa City and Ft. Des Moines road, with the consoling hint from the landlord, that it was doubtful whether they would find a stopping place short of Lattimore's grove, 70 miles distant. As they journeyed west the country was carefully observed, and inquiries made for a large tract of vacant land, but none was found on the first day, and night found them hospitably entertained with four beds in one room, more than they expected in so thinly settled country. The next day at noon they arrived at Lattimore's grove, having plats of all the land thereabout, they proceeded at once to take a view of the prairie where the town of Grinnell is now located, and finding it in all respects most desirable, determined here to plant the colony. As the neighboring inhabitants were suspicious of the colonists, believing them to be speculators, they determined immediately to have a shelter for new comers until the site for the town should be definitely located, and built a log camp.

A considerable portion of the land in town 80, Range 16 west, was entered by those present for their own use and for that of others who were soon to join them.

In the early part of May, 1854, the site of the town was definitely fixed and located in the north-west quarter of section 16, town, 80, range 16 west, and it was soon laid off into lots 75 feet by 165. The business street was to be 100 feet wide, all other streets 80 feet wide. A park was set apart near the center for ornament, to be filled with shrubbery and trees. Six lots were set apart as the place for a church and school-house.

About the first of June, 1854, the first building was erected for the accomodation of the colonists and those who might choose to come that way, and they were not a few. This first building was put together for the time and occasion, and it chanced to be long, low and narrow, and thereby somehow got the name of "the long house." It was situated opposite to Deacon Bartlett's residence. — At this stage of affairs the people voted to call the town

Grinnell. Soon after the erection of this first building, another was erected in which Mr. Anor Scott kept store. A large stone or grout building was erected during the fall of the year for a hotel, and kept by George Chambers.

The next thing to be provided was a suitable place for holding religious meetings and a school house. A small building was erected for this double purpose, and thus as ever the church and school go hand in hand; and it may be mentioned here that probably not a sabbath has passed since the first location of the colony, on which there has not been preaching or other religious services. Rev. J. B. Grinnell officiated as minister for the colony part of the time during the first four years.

In March, 1855, the initiatory steps toward forming a Congregational church were taken and the organization was perfected on the 8th of May, 1855. The church was organized with 20 members, and on the 1st of July 14 others joined the church.

As education was one of the main springs of the organization of the colony, all funds arising from the sale of town lots over and above the original cost, were to be appropriated to this purpose, and in such a way as should be decided by the colonists themselves.

One town lot was given to any one, whose purpose was to settle in the place, provided he built a good frame house (a log house was never built on the town plat,) and having received one lot as a gift, the builder was expected to buy the adjoining lot, which he was always ready to do; and thus at present nearly every house has ample space for ornamental and garden purposes. During the year 1855 the balance of unentered land within ten miles of the town was mostly taken up, and the place increased considerably in population. The settlers were generally from the eastern States. In the fall of this year a large and commodious school house 40x40 feet and two stories high was built.

The first white child born in the colony was Frederick Samuel, a son to Dr. Thos. Holyoke, in April, 1855, and died the same year.

The first death was of a Mr. Hale, an aged man, who died soon after his arrival in 1854.

The first permanent frame dwelling house was built by Dr. Holyoke.

The first Fourth of July that occurred after the settlement of the place, was duly celebrated, not in burning of powder, for that was thought a useless part of the performance at that time, but by patriotic speeches and a good cheer for the inner man.

In June 1856, the Congregational Association of Iowa met here, and found a most cordial reception. Dr. Tappan, from Maine, who was present, made the remark, that he found here what he did not expect to find, a New England colony as it were taken up by the roots and transplanted out on the prairies of Iowa. On the 2d of April 1857, the citizens laid the foundation to Grinnell University, which in time became Iowa College.

At the time of the settlement of the place the nearest railroad station was at Davenport, and all goods sold and lumber bought had to be brought from thence by teams, a distance of 120 miles. How slow building was then is easily imagined. No wonder that no mansions were erected during the first eight years, and the growth of the place has been slow, to within a year or two; but still it has been steady and permanent.

Those who have settled, have had in view religious and educational advantages, making themselves quiet and comfortable homes, and they to a great extent succeeded in their enterprise. Considerable attention has been paid to horticulture, and many fine fruit gardens may be seen.

The surrounding country is settled by enterprising farmers, and settlers are coming in rapidly, and thrift and enterprise are taking the place of what eleven years ago was an unbroken waste of prairie. The surface is gently undulating, and although no large streams are near, there is a sufficiency of stock water on all sides of town in small streams fed by living springs.

By the survey of the M. & M. R. R., it is determined that the highest point between Davenport and Des Moines is at the depot of said road in Grinnell. Part of the water falling in and about town runs into Sugar Creek and Skunk river, and the other, the eastern part, runs into Bear Creek and Iowa river.

The M. & M. R. R. was completed to this place in July 1863, and the terminus of the road is now, in February 1865, still at this place.

The town plat has been enlarged by additions on all sides.

The present Congregational Meeting House was built in 1860 and was enlarged in 1863. It will seat 400 and is frequently too small. The pulpit has been supplied at times by Rev. J. B. Grinnell, Rev. S. L. Herrick, Rev. L. C. Rouse and J. W. Hathaway, and in August 1863 the Rev. S. D. Coolrane was settled as pastor. The Methodists have a society and have stated preaching. They expect soon to have a meeting house. The Baptists have a convenient house of worship built in 1859, and have preaching part of the time.

The public school has three departments and is open about nine months in the year.

The place has not far from 1,000 inhabitants. We had last fall a Republican majority of 120. There are several dry goods stores in the place, two hardware stores, two drug stores, several family groceries, one book store, two hotels, and a livery stable. Since the spring of 1864 the Provost Marshal's Office of the 4th congressional district of Iowa has been located here, this being the most central place of the district and indeed nearly of the State.

The persons liable to military duty have always made due provision to supply the number of men demanded by the Government, and at this time are probably far enough ahead of all calls to exempt them from another call of 300,000 men.

History of Iowa College.

Iowa College of 1865 is the product of the inoculation of a young shoot with a more mature stock, or, perhaps more properly, a stream enlarged and modified by the accession of an important tributary: the stream before its enlargement was Iowa College of Davenport, its tributary, Grinnell University.

IOWA COLLEGE IN DAVENPORT.

The establishment of a College in this—then—Territory was a theme of common remark among the Congregational and New School Presbyterian ministers here as early as 1841. At the ordination of

the "Andover Band," in November, 1843, at Denmark, the project was definitely proposed and fully discussed, but the resolution to take immediate action was not formed till the March following.

Attention was first directed to a place in Buchanan County on the Wapsipinnicon as a desirable location for the College. Rev. J. A. Reed, Seth Richards, Esq., and James Houghton, Esq., were appointed to examine the place and report. This committee reported April 16, 1844, when Rev. Asa Turner of Denmark, was appointed to solicit funds in the East. Ten days after that meeting he was on his way. He received many words of encouragement in New York, New Haven and Boston; but in the latter place he met several gentlemen, especially interested in more Eastern and feeble institutions, who very naturally regarded the effort for a College in Iowa as liable to some objections, and advised that it should be postponed. As that field seemed to be preoccupied, this effort was abandoned. Nevertheless, interest in the general object was not abated. Many influences turned the attention of the friends of the enterprise toward Davenport, and in 1846, it was decided to locate the College there. At the same meeting a Board of Trustees was elected.

The College received its Charter June 17, 1847, and classes in the Preparatory Department were organized Nov. 1, 1848, under the care of Prof. E. Ripley. The number of students (as given in the only catalogue at hand) during its first, second, and eighth years, was 43, 76, and 139. The principal Instructors in the College, were Rev. E. Ripley, Prof. Ancient Languages, Rev. H. L. Bullen; Prof. Mathematics, Rev. D. Lane, Prof. of Mental and Moral Science, and D. S. Sheldon Prof. Natural Science.

The growth of Davenport was thought to require the opening of a street through the College Campus which would render it comparatively unfit for College purposes. The Trustees accordingly determined in 1858 to remove the Institution elsewhere. Of the many liberal offers made by citizens of different places in the State to secure its location in their vicinity, the Trustees gave the preference to that* made at Grinnell, and decided to remove it to this place.

GRINNELL UNIVERSITY.

The origin of the University and the colony and village of Grinnell are so intertwined and so interfused that a full account of the one cannot be given without embracing much of the history of the other. The University was the soul, the animating spirit of the colony, or, changing the view and the figure, it was her first-born, the object of her fondest hopes and most prayerful solicitude.

The founders of "The Colony" (as it was first named in the vicinity) were of New England origin and thoroughly imbued with the New England spirit. Neither love of adventure nor lust for gain was their sole or dominant purpose in locating on a treeless and almost shrubless prairie. They came to the West not merely to secure a home, but

*Its cash value was estimated at something over \$10,000.

also aid in building up a literary institution which should be a source and centre of moral and religious influence in the State.

One of the first acts of the colonists was the consecration of the net proceeds of the village lots to the erection of College buildings. The first public meeting to give the projected institution a definite form and character was held in Grinnell, Dec. 3d, 1855, and the dates* and acts of meetings immediately succeeding in connection with the fact (as it is believed) that every male citizen of the place became an "Elector" by the payment of \$20.00 to the "Literary Fund" show that it was the central object of their plans and aspirations. At the meetings in December the "electors" decided that the Institution should be named "Grinnell University," and should be "separated into two Departments," male and female, the former "to resemble Eastern Colleges," the latter to be modified after Mt. Holyoke Seminary in South Hadley, Mass., and that the Females should have all the educational advantages of the Male Department. They also selected a site for the Female Seminary and determined to commence the erection of the building at once, and to use it for both Departments until additional buildings could be erected. They selected Trustees also, and so arranged their terms of office that two should be elected annually, one by the "electors" and one by the Trustees themselves, and decided that the President of the University should be elected by the "electors" and not by the Trustees as is the usual method, thus illustrating their democratic spirit and their confidence in the intelligence and educational interest of their prospective successors.

The Trustees prosecuted the work of the building entrusted to their care by the "electors" with as much vigor as the state of the "Literary Fund" would allow, but the stringency of the times and the cost of the work, so much in excess of the first estimates, rendered it impossible to have the building in readiness for use before it was transferred to the Trustees of Iowa College.

The friends of the University foresaw that students "ripe for College" would not be likely to apply for admission as soon as the doors of the Seminary should be opened, unless they should have the opportunity of preparation in Grinnell. Accordingly the Union school was opened for the admission of "foreign students," and classes were taught in the various branches preparatory to a College course, and in some usually taught in the Freshman or Sophomore year. During the school year of 1858-9 which immediately preceded the commencement of instruction here under the auspices of the Trustees of Iowa College, there were in the Union school thirty students from abroad and more than that number of those who were preparing to go through college.

In 1858 the Trustees of Iowa College resolved to remove the College from Davenport, and asked for proposals for its location elsewhere. The Electors and Trustees of the University regarded this as a most favorable opportunity to unify and centralize the educational interests of Congregationalists in Iowa, and promptly offered them their University property and perpetual good will, and illustrated it by making

*December 8th, 10th, 11th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 22d and 25th.

an additional subscription payable to the College when the offer should be accepted and the removal consummated. The offer was accepted and the nuptials duly solemnized! The University as a bride, lost her name and legal identity, but gained largely in wealth and thousands of friends.

IOWA COLLEGE IN GRINNELL.

Instruction under the auspices of the College Trustees was suspended during the Academic Year 1858-9. At the annual meeting in 1859, the Trustees requested Rev. S. L. Herrick, Q. A. Gilmore, L. F. Parker, and J. B. Grinnell to provide instruction without charge to the College, and accordingly classes were organized Sept. 14, 1859, in the College building in Grinnell, under the care of Rev. S. L. Herrick and L. F. Parker.

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees in Grinnell was held July 10, 1860, when arrangements were made for the more formal opening of the Preparatory Department.

In June 1861, the Trustees voted "that the time" had "fully come" when the interests of education and of the College required an effort in its behalf through the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West. This effort was not commenced till the Spring of 1863, when Rev. J. C. Holbrook went to New England to raise a partial endowment of \$20,000. The Agent was so successful, and the wants of the College so imperative, that the Trustees soon asked for \$50,000. After securing payments and pledges to the amount of \$40,000, the work was suspended temporarily.

The first Freshman Class was organized Sept. 4, 1861, and the prospects for an eminently successful year were peculiarly gratifying. The events of the previous summer, however, had shown that the national life was in actual peril, and when a recruiting office was opened in Grinnell, about thirty students (including five of the Freshman Class of twelve) enlisted, and one of the teachers asked leave of absence to accompany them. Sympathy with the Government in its contest with Rebellion has always been at fever heat in the College and among its friends, and students have continued to leave it for the army, while many who have been planning to engage in study here have directed their steps toward the Camp instead of the College. During the summer of 1864, in response to the call of the Governor for men to serve 100 days, about thirty students and one of the teachers enlisted. These constant and, at times, heavy drafts upon the College, have greatly retarded its development. The war has prevented many young ladies from attending the College, but more young men, and if the number of young men in attendance had been as much greater than the number of young ladies actually here as it was during the year embraced in the first catalogue (1860-61) the successive aggregates would have been 102, 138 and 280, instead of 87, 92 and 174.

Iowa College has the distinguished honor of being the first to offer "free tuition" to disabled soldiers and to those unable to pay their

own tuition in consequence of the absence or death of friends in the Union army.

ANTICIPATORY.

Friends of the College in New England are advising the renewal of the effort to increase the Endowment Fund, and immediate and pressing necessities are demanding additional buildings, and it is probable that both objects will receive early attention.

Yale College was founded in 1700, but in 1705 it was described* as "a thing which they call a College," and after a nomadic life of sixteen years, its tutors were regarded as so incompetent that the classes were temporarily disbanded, but in 1865 it has its scores of able instructors, over 600 students, a plethoric treasury and gigantic power. Iowa College is in its infancy, yet, during the last year, it has drawn its students from 36 different counties and 6 different States. The history of Yale suggests the *possibility* that the future may have space and time for the growth of Iowa College.

INSTRUCTORS.

Elected.		Resigned.
1860	L. F. Parker, Prin. Prep. Department,	1861
"	Rev. S. L. Herrick, Assistant,	"
"	Rev. J. A. Reed, "	"
1861	" Prin. Prep. Department.	1862
"	L. F. Parker, Prof. of Ancient Languages.	
1862	Rev. D. E. Jones, teacher of Music,	1863
"	Hon. T. Holyoke, M. D., Lecturer on Physiology.	
"	Mrs. S. C. Parker, Prin. Female Department.	
1863	C. W. Von Coelln, Prof. Mathematics.	
"	Rev. S. B. Goodenow, Prin. Prep. Department.	1863
1864	Rev. S. Jay Buck, " " "	
"	Rev. G. F. Magoun, President.	
"	Rev. O. W. Clapp, Prof. Rhetoric.	
"	Rev. H. W. Parker, Prof. Natural Science.	

Brooklyn.

BROOKLYN is beautifully located near the M. & M. R. R., on elevated ground between Big and Little Bear Creeks, the center of the village being three-fourths of a mile from the depot. It has a population of 400, the entire population of the township being about 750. It contains three dry goods stores, two groceries, one drug store, one tin shop, two blacksmith shops, two hotels, two

*By Col. Caleb Heathcote, in a letter sent to England for publication.

shoe shops, two churches, one school house, and near the depot a grain ware house and lumber yard.

The Methodists have a good substantial frame church, and the Catholic's have a small one. There are Presbyterian, Baptist and Lutheran organizations with stated or occasional preaching, but no church buildings. The schools are in two departments, and have 170 scholars.

Bear Creek township was settled in the winter of 1845—46 by John J. Talbott, the first settler, and next followed Robert Manatt, Sr., with his son William Manatt. The first white child born in the township was Sarah Massa, daughter to William Manatt. The first death was that of John J. Talbott. It was he who built the first house, (log) a little east of the town site. These first settlers came to this place from Holmes Co., Ohio.

The town of Brooklyn was laid out in the spring of 1855 by Robert Manatt, Sr. The first store in the place was kept by Dr. Reuben Sears, now of Grinnell, and was opened Sept. 9, 1854. Previous to this time, the inhabitants traded at Iowa City and Montezuma. Milling was done at Iowa City, about fifty miles distant.

The number of sheep in Bear Creek township two years ago was 70; it is now 4,585, which is a fair illustration of the rapid advancement the entire county is making in the business of wool growing.

Forest Home.

The above is the name of a beautiful village nestled in the woods, in the southern part of the county, six miles from Montezuma. The population is about 200, although the entire township (Union) is probably as thickly populated as any township in the county. The inhabitants are intelligent, industrious, and thriving—lovers of everything good, loyal and true.

The first election held in Poweshiek county was at the house of Mahlon Woodward in Union township, before the organization of the county. Martin (or Daniel) Snyder was the first Justice of the Peace.

The first settlers of this township were Richard Cheesman, R. B. Ogden. The first white child born in the

township was Hannah A Woodward, daughter to Mahlon Woodward, about the year 1847. The first death was that of Elias Dement, about 1847 or 1848. The first sermon preached was by J. B. Hardee, present elder of this district in the M. E. Church.

Union township has furnished more than a hundred volunteers for the Union army.

Dresden

Is a neat little village of 150 inhabitants, in Deep River township, 10 miles east of Montezuma. It contains two stores, a steam saw mill, a blacksmith shop, a school house, &c. There are three church organizations, Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist.

The locality is one of the most pleasant and healthy in the State. The prairie is rolling, the region well watered, Deep river being a never failing stream, which is skirted with an abundance of fine timber. The country is fast being settled up and improvements are rapidly going forward.

Malcom Township.

In August 1853, Mr. W. L. Zinc from Illinois, and in April 1854, Mr. W. Springer from Seneca county, Ohio, settled in the bounds of what is now Malcom township. Mr. Thomas Motherel came in May following and settled on Big Bear Creek near the nine mile grove. Zinc was located on the State road, on the premises now belonging to Mr. Sylvester Bates, near the center of the township; and Mr. Springer on the same road in the eastern part of said township. In the year of 1855 Mr. Church Meigs, and P. O. Raymond, from the State of Vermont, settled on the said state road east of Zinc's farm, the premises of Mr. Raymond joining those of Zinc, and those of Meigs next to Raymond's. In the same season Mr. Edmund Cardell from Illinois, formerly from Vermont, settled on the State road on the place joining the farm of the said Church Meigs on the east. Mr. C. B. Martin came the next season and opened a farm on the said road opposite the premises of Messrs.

Meigs and Cardell and resided there until the fall of 1859. In February 1857, Mr. Sylvester Bates from Vermont, having purchased the farm of W. L. Zinc, settled himself there where he yet remaining a citizen of this township, Mr. Zinc having emigrated to Kansas.— Not far from the same time Mr. H. D. Arnold came in, and subsequently others, till the population of the territory was such as to require a civil organization. Accordingly an order was issued on the 10th of September, 1858, by the county judge to L. E. Cardell, Esq., to give due notice to the qualified electors of said territory to meet at the house of Mr. E. Cardell, on the 2d Tuesday of October following, and elect officers for the said township of Malcom. This order from the Judge first defined the metes and bounds of the township and affixed the name of Malcom, then directed as to the time and place of holding the election.

In pursuance to the order of the court on the 2d Tuesday of October the election was held at the place designated. Mr. Church Meigs polled the first vote. L. E. Cardell was elected Justice of Peace; John Meigs, Constable; H. D. Arnold, C. B. Martin and H. Pervoise Trustees, and Sylvester Bates clerk of the said township. John Wallace was elected Assessor and E. Cardell Supervisor.

The first minister of the gospel that settled in this township was Mr. James Cox, of the United Brethren denomination, who came in from Wisconsin in May 1859. The first white child born within the bounds of this township was Catharine Zinc, daughter of W. L. Zinc and his wife Margaret Zinc. She was born soon after her parents settled in Malcom. The first couple married were Mr. David Johnson and Miss. Martha Motherel. The first adult death was that of Mr. Jacob Gwyn in the latter part of the summer of 1859.

Mr. Church Meigs was the first school director and Mrs. P. P. Wallace taught the first school, in the year 1858. In October 1859 Rev. A. D. Chapman, from Delaware County, Ohio, settled in the township and commenced his ministerial labors in what is now the first Presbyterian church of Brooklyn and Malcom, on the

8th of November following, and still continues to be the stated supply of said church.

The first school house was completed in the spring of 1860. It is admirably fitted as to size and internal arrangement to answer the two-fold purpose of a school house and a house of worship. There are now three school districts in this township, and three schools are now kept. There are two school houses which are occupied and a school house for district No. 3 is projected, the funds being raised in part to complete it.

The settling of this township has not been as rapid as of some other sections in the State of Iowa. The character and enterprise of the inhabitants however, will compare favorably with any equal average number of settlers who have peopled any district of the western country, as to their thrift, in the breadth of soil brought into cultivation, the amount of grain produced, and the increase of their stock by growth and by purchase. A post office was kept in this township on the State road from 1847 till within the year past when it was removed to the nearest residence to the M. & M. R. R., where it is now kept. Mr. E. L. Cardell was the first post master,

Pleasant Township,

This township as its name indicates is a beautiful section of the county lying a little northwest of Montezuma. The first settlers were David Cassiday and William Cassiday, who located there in 1851-52, followed by Harrison Hornback and Hannibal Sutton.

The first white child born was Sarah Naomi, daughter to David Cassiday. The first death was that of Eli S., son to William Cassiday. Mr. John Cassiday, still a resident of the township, planted the first orchard.

What Poweshiek County has done to put down the Rebellion.

This county has been represented in more than twenty regiments and batteries of Iowa troops, as well as in several regiments from other States. For the 10th Iowa Infantry she furnished more than a hundred men, for the 28th Iowa Infantry about two hundred, for the 40th about one hundred, for the 4th Iowa Cavalry about a hundred, and a smaller number for other regiments. In all she has sent into the field about 600 men, mostly for three years.

SCHOOLS.

There are sixty sub-districts in the county, some of which have two schools. The number of persons between the ages of 5 and 21 years of age are 2,877. The schools are all in a flourishing condition, good teachers are employed and in almost every sub-district there is a good frame school house. The average compensation received by male teachers is about \$6.00 per week, that of females about \$5.00.

The number of school districts two years ago, was fifty, showing an increase of 20 per cent. in that time.

This county was named in honor of POWESHIEK, an Indian Chief, who presided over this district of territory, and lived and died somewhere in this vicinity. Where he was buried we have as yet been unable to learn. It is said that he was friendly to the whites, and an honorable chief.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

W. C. CONDIT, 17580.

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